

Maria Hegstad  
1919 S. Eads St.  
Suite 201  
Arlington, VA 22202  
703-416-8541

August 2, 2016

Larry Gottesman  
National Freedom of Information Officer  
Environmental Protection Agency  
National Headquarters  
Environmental Protection Agency - (2822T)  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20460

## **FOIA REQUEST**

**Fee benefit requested**

**Fee waiver requested**

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I request access to and copies of any and all responses that EPA provided to House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Chairman Jason Chaffetz's July 14 letter asking about EPA's use of an economic cost benefit analysis metric known as value of a statistical life (VSL).

I would like to receive the information in electronic format, if possible.

As a representative of the news media I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. Through this request, I am gathering information on EPA's response to Rep. Chaffetz's query because information on how EPA analyzes its rules is of current interest to the public because agency rules can have great impact on society and the economy. This information is being sought on behalf of *Inside EPA* for dissemination to the general public.

Please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities. As a journalist, any information that I receive as a result of this request will be published in a publicly-accessible website and newsletter. I attempted to gather this information from EPA and Congressional spokespersons without success. An EPA spokesman told me that I would have to get the documents from Congress, and the House Oversight Committee's spokeswoman has not responded to my requests.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees.

As I am making this request as a journalist and this information is of timely value, I would appreciate your communicating with me by telephone or email, rather than by mail, if you have questions regarding this request.

I look forward to your reply within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Maria Hegstad

